British Packet AND ARGENTINE NEWS.

N°. 732.] BUENOS AYRES, SATURDAY, AUGUST 29, 1840. [Vol. XV.

BUENOS AYRES.

This week, contrary to expectation, has passed without any very important occurrence, the preparations on the part of the government not being yet matured for the development of their military combinations. Lavalle appears to have made the Guardia de Lujan the centre of his operations. Leaving there his infantry and artillery, he is said to have detached a column of cavalry under the command of Don Aniceto Vega, in the direction of Navarro and Lobos, probably with the design af attempting a *coup de main* upon the Guardia del Monte; but on their approach to Lobos, finding that that important point was covered by a division of 2000 men under the command of Colonel Vicente Gonzalez, they retired, after some skirmishing with the advanced guard of Lieut. Col. Lorea. In the mean time a scouting party of General Pacheco's division, which now forms the vanguard of the army of Governor Rosas, encountered and cut to pieces in the vicinity of the Villa de Lujan, another of Lavalle's, killing 20 men and taking 7 prisoners, among the latter the Commander of the party. Governor Lopez is reported to have reached the Cañada de la Cruz, 6 leagues to the North of the Guardia de Lujan. General Prudencio Rosas, with 1000 men is at Chascomus, and Colonels Martiniano Rodriguez and Aguilera, with 1000 veterans from the frontier, are said to have crossed the Salado.

Operations of the French blockading vessels.

22nd inst. A launch left the outer roads and went alongside the brig Bolonnaise off the town. The latter soon afterwards got under way and stood down the river. The launch returned to outer roads. The brigantine Vigilante whose sailing was noticed on 21st, was this day at anchor near Point San Fernando. The schooner of war (prize) made a stretch from the outer roads towards Point Quilmes and returned.

23rd. A launch and a whale boat were cruising to the S. last night, and returned to the outer roads this morning. A launch sailed to the S. and three whale boats to the N., two of which returned towards evening.

24th. The schooner of war (prize) was at anchor at day break this morning off Point Quilmes. Two whale boats arrived from the N., and blockaders beef boat (balandrita) from Colonia. The latter sailed again. A French brig of war came in from the eastward, supposed from Montevideo. The Vigilante anchored off the Recoleta.

25th. The schooner of war (prize) got under way from her anchorage off Point Quilmes and went to the outer roads. A French schooner arrived from Colonia.

26. The Bolonnaise came in from the E. and anchored in her former berth off the town. A launch and 2 whale boats were cruising a little to the N. and returned to the outer roads.

27th. The blockaders were in a bustle to day,—from the following cause, AS WE HEAR. The army stationed at *Santos Lugares* was exercising this morning, and about 7 a. m. its fire of artillery and musquetry was distinctly heard, the wind being off the land. In the outer roads these sounds were surmised to be those of battle, and two small French brigs of war, viz:—the Bolonnaise and the one which arrived on the 24th inst., as also the Vigilante and the armed prize schooner got under way, to be ready it was presumed for any emergency; at the same time a number of French boats were going to and fro, amongst the shipping, asking perhaps, as they do at home, "What's the row." The brigs afterwards anchored off the Recoleta, and the two schooners off the town.

A launch and two whale boats were cruising last night to the S., and returned to the outer roads this morning.

28th. Four whale boats where cruising last night to the N. and returned. A thick fog prevailed nearly all the morning.

The two brigs and the two schooners which made a move yesterday, continued at the same anchorage they took up last evening, viz:—the brigs off the Recoleta, the schooners off the town.

This day (29th inst.) completes the 886th day of the blockade.

On Saturday last; Captain Belt, of the U. S. ship Marion, accompanied by Captain Ogden, of the U. S. ship Decator, Captain Jones, of H. B. M's ship Curaçoa, Captain Christie, of H.B. M's ship Rose, Lieut. O'Reilly, of H. B. M's packet Spider, and a large party of officers of their respective vessels, visited the encampment at *Santos Lugares*, about 3½ leagues from town. They were received by H. E. the Governor with his accustomed urbanity. After the several Commanders had been individually introduced to H. E., the party again mounted their horses, and were conducted by H. E. through the camp. The troops having been previously put under arms, each division was passed in review, the most enthusiastic *vivas* greeting the approach of H. E. the Governor. The party were accompanied a considerable distance on their return to town by H. E. and a number of officers of his staff. The appearance of the troops is represented as being very fine and soldierlike, and nothing could exceed the kind and hospitable reception which H. E. and his officers gave to the visiters.

The encampment at *Santos Lugares* has attracted numerous visiters from town. The infantry have constructed huts of peach wood, and arranged them in street order, with the names of various streets in Buenos Ayres, such as the Calle de la Victoria, Calle de la Paz, Calle del 25 de Mayo, Calle de la Reconquista, &c. &c.

A brigade of the British foot guards, after the battle of Waterloo, were stationed in the *Bois de Boulogne* near Paris. They had also constructed huts and placed them in street form, attaching thereto, the names of well known streets in London. Well we remember riding through those mock streets, delighted with the spectacle. These were our halcyon days.

The death of Frederick William III. of Prussia removes from the scene of politics the last of those sovereigns (with the single exception of Bernadotte) whose reigns were marked by the greatest disasters and the most brilliant military retribution which Europe ever witnessed. In the early and stormier period of his reign his firm intractable character earned for him that reliance of his people which has attended him with little diminution, though under very different circumstances, to the close of his life. The habits of his iron youth hung about him always. A barbarous passion for military pageants, and a narrow adherence to the example of military discipline, even in the civil administration, marked at once his personal character and policy.

The chief interest which attaches itself to these personal peculiarities arises from the fact, that in later years they have plunged the Prussian government into serious difficulties, and materially affected the relative position of Prussia in Germany and in Europe. The great questions of the Catholic church in Prussia, by which the last years of Frederick William's reign have been agitated, and of the ascendancy of his own state church, to which his energy has been during those years undeviatingly devoted, may be brought nearer to reconciliation, if not to an absolute solution, by his death; for his personal feelings had exacerbated the quarrel; and the accession of his son removes a weight of animosity on either side. All speculation on the political character of the present Sovereign would be premature, but this much is known, that he ascends the throne singularly and entirely unpledged to either side on these questions which have perplexed the cabinet and weakened the power of the late King. It is scarcely possible to imagine that a Prince of mature years, remarkable for his talents and his accomplishments, should have preserved so discreet a neutrality between parties, which included almost every one else of his father's subjects, and should ascend the throne wholly unshackled by public pledges, or even by the ties of private confidence. Yet such we believe to be the case.

The course which may now be adopted by the Cabinet of Berlin is still perfectly open and undetermined. The recent death of Baron Altenstein has made a vacancy, to which Count Stollberg may probably succeed, as Minister of Public Instruction; and the Chevalier Bunsen, so well known in this country for the part he took in the Cologne question, may be expected to join the government. But the relations of the new King with Russia, with the Pope, and the rest of Germany—relations which involve, both externally and internally, the very existence of the Prussian kingdom—demand the exercise of the highest political abilities, conducted by no intractable or arbitrary spirit, but in conformity with the desires of an independent and enlightened people.

The Times.

The Weather during the last fortnight has been dry. The thermometer last week ranged from 42 to 52. This week 50 to 60.

Official Documents.

The *Gaceta* of 22nd inst., contains the particulars of the cause between Don Bernardino Bengurie, one of the executors of the late Don Juan José Alluntiz, against Don Luis Rañal, with the decision dated 28th ult., of the Tribunal *de recursos extraordinarios*.

The same paper of 26th, contains the cause between Don Francisco Maglioni, in the right of his wife Doña Carmen Figueroa, against Don Antonio Fechas, with the decision dated 7th inst., of the same Tribunal.

A note dated 7th inst., from Don Juan José Bosch to the Under Secretary of the Home Department, acknowledges the receipt of the note appointing him Inspector of Pharmacy, and adds that he will endeavour to merit the confidence reposed in him.

H. B. M's packet Spider, did not anchor in the outer roads on Sunday the 16th inst., until dark. Her Commander, however, with the mail, came on shore the same night in a boat of H. B. M's ship Rose.

The Adjutant of the Port, Don Juan Segui, was in attendance at the landing place ; as also his people with lights.

The passengers landed on the following morning.

The United States ship Decator, and H. B. M's ship Curaçao, saluted the town on Monday the 17th inst., with 21 guns each, (having flag of this Republic at fore) which were returned from the Fort by a like number.

Some Account of the Falkland Islands, from a Six Months' Residence in 1838-9. By L. B. Mackinnon, R. N., First Mate of H. B. M's Cutter *Arrow*.

(Further Extracts.) From the Athenæum.

The *Arrow* cutter was fitted out for the purpose of taking an accurate survey of the Falkland Islands; and Mr. Mackinnon, availing himself of the literary habits which have become fashionable in our navy, has given in a few pages the results of his observations. We are among those who hold all such publications as good in themselves, and of good example.—Not only may much useful information be thus packed up by a young man anxious to make the most of his advantages, but a vast increase of efficiency will be given to the individual, who is thus trained to correctness of observation, and the habits of considering and arranging on paper his own ideas.

The almost avowed intention of the author is to recommend these islands as a place of settlement for emigrants; and he seems to have regarded all he saw with reference to this thought. We do not, however, imagine that the picture Mr. Mackinnon presents (and his praise is neither *indiscriminate* nor unmeasured) will induce many persons to wander to such a distance without some very powerful effort at protection and encouragement on the part of the government. The whole, therefore, must turn on the advantages and disadvantages of making these islands a naval depôt, an hostelrie for the refitting and refreshment of vessels passing Cape Horn, and a *point d'appui* for action in the Pacific during a maritime war. It certainly is a *primâ facie* argument against such a proposition, that after so many vicissitudes of interest and neglect, none of the great maritime nations have thought proper to persevere with colonizing enterprises in this quarter; and although in 1832 the British government once again took formal possession of these islands, they are even now, according to Mr. Mackinnon's account, "merely under our flag, and have a small vessel of war to keep that flag flying."

This argument is met by the author by a reference to the limited trade of former periods, and to the fact that the whole of Spanish America was long hermetically sealed against British commerce; and he continues—

"The state of things is now quite different. The Falklands, it is true, can be no longer of any use as a thorn in the side of the Spanish possessions in South America, but they can be applied to a nobler and more useful purpose: they can serve as harbours of refuge for vessels sailing round Cape Horn; as a station from which the whalers and sailing vessels of the South Seas may obtain refreshments and security; and, moreover, these islands may at the sáme time become a thriving colony, and prove no despicable addition to the British empire, in a portion of the globe where we possess no other settlement, and which is several thousand miles distant from the nearest British colony. Perhaps one of the greatest benefits conferred on our country by the naval superiority she possesses, is, after securing her from the attacks of a foreign foe, to enable her to establish flourishing colonies in every quarter of the globe which can be reached by her vessels. * * * It is difficult, therefore, for any one not to arrive at the conclusion, that these islands may at no distant period become a flourishing colony. The soil is certainly productive; it brings out to great perfection all the vegetables that grow in England—it produces the most succulent and wholesome food for cattle of every description, as appears evident from the herds grazing in thousands, and the wild horses now there.—Fuel may be obtained in any quantity merely by digging, and the peat answers for every ordinary purpose, and might be adapted to the forge, and supply most other purposes to which coals are at present applied. The climate is most salubrious, as evidently appears from the circumstance mentioned by me, that not a single instance of sickness appeared in the crew of our vessel during the six months' stay on the island. The climate is most congenial to the constitution of an Englishman, not being very different from the climate of his own country, with the exception that it is rather drier, and also that violent gales of wind and squalls are more prevalent. Innumerable creeks and fresh-water lakes supply an abundance of fish. * *

"We see Heligoland in our possession, commanding the entrance to the Baltic, and serving as a depôt for our produce, that may, if required, be poured into the Northern States of Europe. Gibraltar, commanding the entrance of the Mediterranean in the vicinity of the Northern parts of Africa, adjoining Spain, and at hand to supply Portugal. * * If we extend our view to the South of Africa, we see there the Cape of Good Hope serving as a place of rest, and as a pivot regulating the intercourse by sea from one hemisphere to another, whence a communication with all the adjoining countries may easily be obtained. * * Let us turn our eyes towards the continent of Australia, now boldly *erecting its front*, and *rising* into civilization and importance in a manner hitherto unexampled! Let us look also at the vast extent of territory, and at the mighty states that line the waters of the Pacific Ocean. What is the intermediate spot between Great Britain and Australia and New Zealand, which forms a half-way house for the trade which is hourly increasing by the intercourse of the two countries, and rising into one of great national consequence?—The Falkland Islands! Where is the spot which commands the passage round Cape Horn and the Straits of Magellan, and consequently that point which, as the trade with the Pacific increases, arising from a natural course of events which will take place, and which, consequently, must be of great importance to the interests of Britain? The *Falkland Islands!* Taken, therefore, as the pivot of the trade between the great and isolated continent of Australia on the one hand, and of the immense regions washed by the waters of the Pacific on the other, the Falkland Islands will become at no distant period the key to the commerce of those distant shores, and the Gibraltar of the Pacific, and of the Australian seas. * * Now, let us consider their importance in the event of Great Britain being involved in a war, either with the old states of Europe, or of the other hemisphere. * * Let us imagine Great Britain at war with any European state, the benefit arising from a station on the Falklands is easily understood.—Few vessels could sail to Australia, New Zealand, or the Pacific, except under the English flag, without risk of capture. * * If, therefore, we consider this cluster of islands either as pivots for trade, and as a locale to promote commercial enterprise in times of peace, or as stations and depôts for provisions and convalescence in time of war, or in any other point of view they are considered, they cannot but revive a feeling of that interest in the people of Britain which existed last century. * * Perhaps the present century may witness steamboats plying between the Falklands and the coast of Patagonia and the Straits of Magellan; the whole of Patagonia may be explored, and the continental population redeemed from that state of barbarism and wretchedness which in other places is fast melting before the warmth of civilisation, of christianity, and of individual happiness and national prosperity."

FINAL CHARGE OF THE GUARDS AT WATERLOO.

"Up, Guards! and at them!" is one of those memorable sentences, standing for the symbols and representatives of great events, which, like Cæsar's report, "*Veni, vidi, vici*," and Nelson's signal, "England expects every man to do his duty!"—have imprinted themselves, in capital letters, on the page of history, and been admitted among the mnemonios of nations. At the sound, fancy sees the hill-top on which death had sat like a crowned monarch through all the dreadful day at Waterloo, swarming with the life as of a sudden resurrection—and hears the answering shout, when the hurricane of war swept down its slopes, that tore into shreds the banner of France, and laid an Empire in the dust.

The last charge of the British Guards, on the 18th of June, besides being, necessarily, rich in picturesque effect, is an incident of the most intense dramatic interest, as being the point or crisis in one of those great actions by which the destiny of nations is conspicuously moulded. But, more than such incidents in general, it derives a peculiar interest of its own from the circumstances by which it had been preceded. Perhaps, of all the fields on which British valour has ever made its most conspicuous displays, there never was one so remarkable as Waterloo, for that peculiar characteristic of the national courage which distinguishes it from the courage of most other races of men, and singularly contrasts it with that of the nation which was its immediate opponent on the day in question; we allude to its constitutional quality of calm and patient endurance. A more gallant nation than France the sun does not rise on; but a Frenchman's valour is nourished upon its own action, and must be permitted to breathe itself, or it dies. It is better formed for brilliant achievement than silent resistance.—With French troops, or any other troops than British, it may well be doubted if Wellington could have won the field of Waterloo; and part of his great merits consist in his perfect knowledge of the materials with which he had to work, and the entire confidence with which, since a system of tactics so desperate and trying seemed necessary to the success of his operations, he reposed on the unyielding constancy of the British soldier. Twenty times, during that dreary day, would his combinations have been thwarted by the irrepressible impatience of men as gallant but more impetuous, under the irritations that goaded almost to madness, and sounded more starling than trumpets to the charge. The battle of Waterloo was a continued succession of tremendous charges by the French columns on the British squares; and hour after hour did these gallant heroes, amid all the maddening excitements of the scene, stand to be mowed down on the spots where they had been placed, watering, unmurmuringly, with their blood, the ground on which a glorious harvest was about to be reaped, though they well knew that they should not be at the gathering. The duty of each exposed square was like the desperate one of a forlorn hope. "When will we get at them?" was the desperate cry of the Irish Regiments, when death blew through their ranks, and their temper at times all but failed. "The loss of individual Regiments, under circumstances so maddening," says an historian of this scene, "was prodigious. One had four hundred men mowed down in square, without drawing a trigger; it lost almost all its officers, and a subaltern commanded it for half the day." Another, "when nearly annihilated, sent to require support; none could be given; and the commanding officer was told that 'he *must* stand or fall where he was.'"—Knowing the tremendous sacrifice of life that was going on, Napoleon calculated on wearying the British into defeat. Ever and again the masses of the enemy came dashing against the British squares, and were rolled back as from stone walls—but not without making fearful breaches in the living masonry, which were instantly and steadily filled up. Never was a state of inaction so dreadful and so dreary.—Oh! for one blast of the bugle that should have broken that dreadful paralysis of the limbs of war, and sounded to the charge! And it came *at length!—awakening* the *myriad* energies that had slumbered through all that long and desolating day, in one tremendous and irresistible burst of action, and gathering the hoarded vengeance of its weary hours into one vast impulse, beneath whose discharge a dynasty perished from the earth. It was after the Prussians had begun to debouch from the woods of St. Lambert, that Napoleon, seeing the day was lost, unless he could make an instant impression on the British front, led on his Old Imperial Guard to the foot of the hill, behind whose crest the British Guards lay couched like lions. Here he paused on the remonstrances of his staff,

and Ney headed this last great venture up the hill. The hour was now come when the sleepy spell was to be broken, and the fearful nightmare which had, all day, sat among the British squares, at length shaken off. Gallantly, amid showers of grape and cannister shot, the Imperial Guard swept on, and gallantly crossed the ridge of the hill. Then it was that the magic word of power went forth—"Up, Guards! and at them!" The tide of war which had flowed all day towards the British lines, was rolled back; the cavalry came pouring in the track of the gallant Guards, and the Duke closed his telescope, and gave the final order for the whole British line to advance. When was ever order so exaltingly obeyed? Wounds and fatigue, and hunger, were all forgotten. With their customary steadiness they began to cross the ridge; but nature had been strained to her extreme point of forbearance, and when they saw the French before them, a cry arose that seemed to rend the Heavens. When silence again descended on that field, to sit there with his natural ally, death, the stars, to which Napoleon trusted, had fought against him in their courses, as they did against Sisera of old—the eagles were low on the plain, from whence they never soared again, and the flag of the silver lilies was waving to the breezes of France.—*Maxwell's Naval and Military Almanac.*

British Colonies.—The colonies belonging to the Crown of Great Britain, (says Mr. Clark,) exclusive of those under the government of the East India Company, are as follows:—In the West Indies and South America: Antigua, including Barbuda; Barbadoes; British Guiana; Dominica; Grenada; Jamaica; Montserrat; Nevis; St. Christopher, including Anguilla; St. Lucia; St. Vincent; Tobago; Trinidad; and the Virgin Islands. In North America, continental and insular; Bahama Islands; Bermuda, or Somer's Islands; Canada Town; Upper Canada; Prince Edward's Island; New Brunswick; Newfoundland; with pert of Labrador and Nova Scotia, including Cape Breton. In Africa: Cape of Good Hope; and Sierra Leone, with the settlement on the Gold Coast. In the Indian Seas: Ceylon, and Mauritius, with the Seychelles. In the South Seas: New South Wales, with Norfolk Island; Van Dieman's Land; and Western Australia. And to these may be added the following British possessions, which are said not strictly to fall within the definition of colonies in Europe: Gibraltar; Heligoland; and Malta.

End of Cromwell.—However successful Cromwell was in his foreign expeditions, he ultimately became extremely unhappy in his domestic administration. His person, he knew, was hated, and his government detested by almost every party in the kingdom. The royalists, the republicans, and the presbyterians, all concurred in wishing, the downfall of his power. A sense of this dangerous and disagreeable situation, joined to the pressure of some more private calamities, at last produced such an effect upon his spirits, that he was seized with a fever, which notwithstanding the enthusiastic predictions of himself and his chaplains, who foretold his recovery, put a period to his life on the 3rd of September, 1658, the day which he had long considered as the most auspicious of his life, it being that on which he had gained his two famous victories of Dunbar and Worcester.—He was buried in Henry VII.'s Chapel in Westminster Abbey, and his funeral afterwards celebrated with more than regal pomp, and at a vast expense. His mouldering corse was, however, afterwards taken up and inhumanly dragged to Tyburn, where it was exposed upon the gallows, together with the bodies of Ireton and Bradshaw, whose graves had also been sacrilegiously violated. This barbarous act was coloured by a vote of both Houses of Parliament, passed on the 8th of December, 1660, and which ordered the bodies to be taken up and exposed. After they had hung one entire day, they were taken down, and the heads being cut off were set upon poles on the top of Westminster Hall, where that of Cromwell remained full twenty years afterwards. The character of Cromwell is thus concisely given by the following persons: Cardinal Mazarine calls him a fortunate madman; Father Orleans styles him a judicious villain; Lord Clarendon, a brave, wicked man; and Gregorio Leli says he was a tyrant without vices, and a prince without virtues. Bishop Burnet observes, that his life and his arts were exhausted together; and that if he had lived longer, he would scarce have been able to have preserved his power.—It was said that Cardinal Mazarine would change countenance whenever he heard him named, so that it passed into a proverb in France, "that he was not so much afraid of the *devil* as of *Oliver Cromwell.*"

GLEANINGS.

The Queen.—It is whispered in circles likely to be acquainted with the fact, that her Majesty Queen Victoria is in a way likely to prevent the succession to the throne from passing into any other than the direct line. The report derives strength from her Majesty's recent abstinence from her favourite exercise on horseback, and also from dancing, in which she is known to take much pleasure.

British Line-of-battle Ships building.—The following line-of-battle ships are now building in the different dock-yards in the kingdom.—The four first are in such a forward condition as to be speedily got ready for launching. The next five could all be launched if necessary, within the year. Trafalgar, 120; St. George, 120; London, 92; Collingwood, 80; Goliath, 84; Superb, 80; Hindostan, 80; Boscawen, 70; Cumberland, 70; Algiers, 110; Victoria, 110; Royal Frederick, 110; Albion, 80; Aboukir, 90; Mars, 80; Majestic, 80; Centurion, 80; and Colossus, 80.—Total 18.—The Albion, which will be upwards of 3,000 tons burthen, and is laid down on the slip from which the Nile was launched, is now completely in frame and will stand for some time to season. She is to carry 68-pounders on two decks.—The St. George, 120; Trafalgar, 120; and the Collingwood are to be launched this year, and the Aboukir, sister ship to the Albion, will be put upon the St. George's slip.

The greatest man is he who chooses the right with invincible resolution; who resists the surest temptations from within and without; who bears the heaviest burdens cheerfully; who is the calmest in storms, and most fearless under menaces and frowns; whose reliance on truth, on virtue, on God, is most unfaltering.

Connecticut Girls.—Among the applications for divorce, during the present session of the Legislature, is one in which the husband is the petitioner. Among the reasons set forth why the petition should be granted, the chairman of the committee stated on the floor, that "it was that the wife had kicked him out of bed, and had stoned him in the street. That she was a sort of Amazon, and rather stronger than her husband, and that she had once severely chastised him because he insisted upon having a cat sleep in the bed." Strange to say, these reasons were considered insufficient by the committee. But in the name of all that is sweet in matrimony, what would the committee have? If the wife's nails were sharper than the cat's claws, was he not right in taking puss to his bosom in preference? Mercy on us! To be kicked out of bed and stoned in the street by one's wife—and she ☞ *a Connecticut girl!*

The St. Louis Pennant objects to the phrases, "drunk as a *beast*," and "*beastly* drunk," sometimes used to describe people in a state of intoxication. He says, "It is a gross slander upon the beast creation. We never saw a beast that was not too respectable to get drunk—man is the only animal that is mean enough to do it."

"Setting a man trap," is the title given to a picture of a very pretty young lady arranging her curls at a mirror.

Cure for low spirits in young women.—A good husband.

TULIPS AND ROSES.

My Rosa from the latticed grove,
Brought me a sweet bouquet of roses,
And asked, as round my neck she clung,
If *tulips* I preferred to roses?—

"I cannot tell, sweet wife," I said,
"But kiss me here I see the posies,"—
She did—"O, I prefer," I cried,
"Thy *two-lips* to a dozen roses!"

The present custom of having children's locks braided in long plait, and tied at the end with bows, is not a new fashion; for, there is a portrait of the son of Villiers, first Duke of Buckingham, (*circa* 1637) with his hair thus ornamented.

York Minster.—With the deepest regret, we observe, that fire has again seized on this magnificent structure. The extent of damage, however, sustained from "the devouring element," is, fortunately, not so great as might have been anticipated. How subject to "perils by fire" this venerable cathedral has been, the following chronological summary will show.—Thrice have flames preyed on it since its foundation!

First burnt down in.......................1137
Lay in ruins till...........................1171
The present cathedral completed about..1370
Great part destroyed by the incendiary Martin, Monday, February 2....... } 1829
Eleven years after, it is again on fire, as happened Thursday, May 21....... } 1840

Chinese Junks.

It is believed,—and the fact is wonderful,—that the Chinese have floated down through thirty centuries in the same shapeless junk which now excites the ridicule of our seamen, and which they are yet unwilling to exchange for the improved models which daily pass them in their own seas, and continually force upon them the most humiliating comparisons. In the Chinese junk of our day we may, perhaps, see the counterpart of what the ship was in the days of the Phœnicians and of incipient navigation.

Notice from the Police Office.

The public is informed that, the decree of 25th August 1831, imposing a fine of 20 dollars upon all persons who gallop their horses in the streets, (except on public service,) within the distance of ten squares from the Plaza de la Victoria in all directions, is still in force; and in default payment the parties will be subjected to four days imprisonment.

Victorica.

Buenos Ayres, January 21, 1840.

Advertisements.

THE MIRROR.

THOSE who may have in their possession any numbers of the Mirror corresponding to the years 1833, 34, 35, 36, 37 and 38, bearing the stamp of the Commercial Room, are requested to return them to that establishment.

NOTICE.

"The Athenæum" for December 1838, May and July 1839, and January 1840. "The Literary Gazette" for August and October 1839.

Those who may have the above works belonging to the Commercial Room in their possession, are respectfully requested to return them.

REMOVAL.

MESSRS. Dubbers and Heyn, have removed their Hat Manufactory from the Calle de la Cathedral, and their shop from the Calle de la Federacion, both to No. 41, Calle de la Victoria (del Cabildo), a square and a half from the Plaza de la Victoria. a25 3t

MERCHANT VESSELS
In the Port of Buenos Ayres, on 27th of August, 1840.

NONE.

FOREIGN VESSELS OF WAR.

FRENCH. Barque Perle, 18 guns, Captain Segretier.
Corvette Triomphant, 24 guns, Captain Penaud.
Corvette Alcmene, 26 guns, Captain Lecointe.
Brig Cassard, 20 guns, with Commodore's broad pendant.
Brig Dassas, 20 guns. Brig Bolonnaise, 8 guns. A Brig.

BRITISH. Ship Curaçoa, 24 guns, Captain Jenkin Jones.
Corvette Rose, 16 guns, Captain Peter Christie.
Brig Camelion, 10 guns, George Martin Hunter, Lieut. Commanding.

AMERICAN. Corvette Marion, 16 guns, Captain William J. Belt.
Corvette Decator, 16 guns, Captain Henry Ogden.

BRAZILIAN. Barque Twentyninth August, 18 guns, Captain Antonio Felix Correa de Mello.

MARINE LIST.

Port of Buenos Ayres.

August 22.—Wind S. slight rain in the evening.

No arrivals.

Sailed, French brig of war Bolonnaise, 8 guns.

August 23.—Wind E.

No arrivals or sailings.

August 24.—Wind N. strong.

No arrivals or sailings.

August 25.—Wind N. E. opposite coast visible.

No arrivals or sailings.

August 26.—Wind N.

Arrived, French brig of war Bolonnaise, 8 guns.

Sailed, H. B. M's packet schooner Spider, Lieut. John O'Reilly, Commander, for Montevideo and Rio Janeiro.

Passengers for Montevideo, Señoras Maria Luisa Roseti, Luisa de la Serna, Antonina de la Serna, Remedios de la Serna, Rita de la Serna, Simona Montoro, Mariquita Arguello and child, Susana Martinez, Pilar Piñeira, Rosa de la Sota, a child 5 years old and a servant, Escolastica Torrades de Fernandez and 2 children, Belen Vidal and 2 children, Dionisia Alvarez, Josefa Silva, with a child, Ventura Montero, Maria Salguero and child, Dominga Ferreira, Rufina Ximenes and 3 children, Eustaquia Torrilla, Andrea Castilla, Martina Lima, with 2 servants and a child, Mariquita Romero, Jacoba Argomero, Luisa Gomez,Carmelita Gomez, Victoria Aranod and 2 children, Saturnina Iturrabe and child,Clotilde Gourbeyre, Agustina Charbonnier and a child, and a Señora and Miss Helen Downey.

Señores Hilario de la Serna, Bonifacio de la Serna, with 2 servants and an infant, Francisco Borja Bulnes, and a child 6 years old, Rafael de Rojas, child and 2 servants, Federico Rosende, José Monis Rossis, José d'Acosta, José Moso, José Meriadel, Andres Chapel, Luis Gaske, Luis Maria, Angel Allones and 2 sons, Manuel Boneo, Pedro Villamor, José Leon Pereira, Santiago Blanc, José A. Capdevila, Pedro Gueridiaga, Brigido Ponce, Prospero Gourbeyre, Charles Cadett, Edward Elsgood, Henry Buchanan, Edward Trahel, Thomas Lavari, Aaron Johnson, William Scott, Thomas Barton, and 2 others.

Steerage, Felice Escalada, Trifona Rodriguez and child, a servant of Señora Dionisia Alvarez, Fermina Gutierrez, and Constancia Rosales.—96, including servants and children.

August 27.—Wind S. W. shifted at mid-day to N. N. E.

No arrivals or sailings.

August 28.—Wind N. E. foggy.

No arrivals.

Sailed, H. B. M's brig Camelion, 10 guns, George Martin Hunter, Lieut. Commanding, for Montevideo.

THE BRITISH QUEEN.

We had been on board, and looked about the gallant vessel, as she lay off Blackwall, preparatory to her first voyage, and had seated ourselves on the crimson chairs, lounged on the sofas, admired the paintings, gazed in the mirrors, walked on the deck, and determined to take an American trip to see our friends who lived in the New World. Our decision was very satisfactory to all, and we embarked, just one hour before the noble ship departed for a distant land. The passengers crowded to the side, and looked at the rapidly receding pier, a loud cheer broke on our ears, we returned it, and the British Queen struck rapidly through the water. All on board seemed interested in our departure, save one solitary being, a lonely girl who sat shrouded in a large shawl, a deep cottage bonnet and veil; she seemed very young and totally absorbed in her own reflections.—We had already got below Woolwich, when she seemed conscious that she was leaving her native land for a far distant home. A slight scream escaped her lips, and she hurried down the stairs, an elderly lady joined her, and they proceeded to the ladies' cabin together. Many hours elapsed ere we again met, and then she looked ill—very ill; sick in mind evidently, though bearing her voyage well in body. It was dinner-time, and she was seated between myself and a mild amiable lady, who spoke very soothingly to her, enquiring after her mother, who was violently sea sick. Her answers were short and absent, and she looked often across the table at her father, who eyed her carefully, and seemed to avoid all conversation.

"A little rest will be beneficial, my dear," said the mild lady, "come and lie down on the sofa in my dormitory, and rest yourself for an hour or two, you say you did not sleep last night."

"Miss Murray, Madam, is much obliged to you for your offer, said her father sternly, but I must decline it; her mother would not approve."

"You must not over-rule a lady, Sir; besides rest is necessary for your daughter, she shall return to you quickly, I assure you."

A little altercation ensued, which terminated in Angelique Murray, accompanying the lady, and lying down on the sofa, wrapped in an enormous cloak. As soon as Angelique felt herself almost alone, she drew a handkerchief over her eyes, and apparently slept, but she did not sleep, for her eyelids drooped with the weight of pearly drops which hung on their long dark fringe.

"You feel leaving home very much; do you not, my dear," asked the lady, whom we shall call Mrs. Aubrey.

"I am sorry to leave England," was the reply, "it is a pleasant land, but one which I shall never view again; therefore, when this first despair is past, I shall never encourage hope, but look calmly forward to a future of desolation."

"Have you left many friends, dearest girl," again asked Mrs. Aubrey, whose growing interest could not be concealed.

"Yes, nearly all;—all, except my parents who are with me. There were many to bid farewell to, all my friends and companions; but would you believe it, lady, I did not weep when I told them I bade them farewell for ever," and Angelique raised her dark eyes to Mrs. Aubrey's face.

"Ah! I am astonished, indeed; you were noble, you were young, but braver than I was; I wept like a child, when I put my arms round the neck of my oldest and dearest friend, though I trust we shall meet again in a very few months."

"But, you did not part with a creature like this," said Angelique, drawing an enamel painting from her bosom, and presenting it to Mrs. Aubrey.

"Never," was the reply, "what a brow, what lovely eyes; O tell me, who is this?"

"One whom you know not, lady; but one whom to see is to love; that creature is my idol, and we are parted for ever. He is dearer to me than this life, but I shall forget him. I am going to a far distant home, a land where I shall see no one like him, where all will be strange, sad, and dismaying; but lady, I shall pray for him night and morning that he may be happy in his quiet English home."

"You are separated for ever, then," said Mrs. Aubrey, mournfully, as she watched the working of her young friend's mind.

"Yes; but I am to blame; fool that I have been, had I known that at a future period we should have been separated thus, I would have shunned him as I would avoid an evil spirit."

"Tell me all without reserve, and if I can help you, dearest Angelique, I will; tell me, have you no hope of another meeting."

"No hope; none is left to me, but if you will forgive my imprudent attachment, I will tell you all. The miniature you hold is that of Claude Templeton, a young aspirant to military fame; a youth, whose romantic history is even more interesting than my own. His mother, a lady of high birth, became attached to Colonel Templeton, then a subaltern in the —— regiment. An imprudent marriage was the consequence, and the birth of Claude was carefully concealed. At length trusty persons were found to whom they confided the baby, with *strict injunctions* to rear him as their own child, till circumstances enabled the Colonel to claim his first-born.—Years past, the babe grew into a youth, tall and graceful, the reputed son of the clockmaker and his wife; I was then a child, and saw him often as he used to stand and gaze at the window, at which my pet kitten usually lay basking in the sun. A child-like attachment was formed, it continued till my studies recalled me home.—Six months elapsed, again I returned to my friends for a short visit; my first question was after Claude Templeton, he had been ill; his father had reclaimed him; the broken-hearted boy wept bitterly as he learnt his future destiny parted him from the only parents he had ever known; a small dog was his simple bequest, which was cherished as a memento of a lost but affectionate son. I, too, wept when his absence was made known to me, but my tears were soon dried, and Claude ceased to be remembered. Nine years passed; all was altered—I was altered, yes, my heart was changed; a feeling rose in my heart that woman was formed with a nobler love than that bestowed on our childhood and dear friends. At this period, Claude Templeton returned in a bad state of health, apparently dying, but he remembered me, and an acquaintance commenced, we met often, too often for my peace, too often for his. They laughed at our attachment, as though we had no hearts, till nerved by their cruel ridicule, I declared my long-cherished affection for him, and my dislike to an effeminate being to whom they supposed I was attached. I scorned their supposition, though the creature was beautiful, and thought of my absent Claude, when apparently sighing over the beautiful simpleton.—My love was discovered; a meeting was allowed us, and then we separated for ever. I am here, thank God! At Massachusetts, to which we shall hasten, I trust to live but a short time.—This earth is dreary and a wilderness; but heaven is a land of perfect bliss. Claude Templeton's destination is India; we shall never meet again!"

Mrs. Aubrey wept as the young girl concluded her tale of woe, and embracing her, fervently bid her hope. Angelique, too, wept at this unexpected sympathy, for sympathy is pleasant to all, but the broken-hearted get very little, and this was the first the poor girl had obtained. The rest of our passage was pleasant and agreeable, thanks to the noble-hearted hospitable captain and the officers of the gallant vessel. All were happy, save Angelique, who appeared unconscious of happiness, though every attention was rendered to her by every person on board the ship. I parted at New York with the bowed-down, broken-hearted girl, who seemed to wish that she slumbered beneath the dark ocean, on which our brave bark was so gallantly riding. *World of Fashion.*

Died.

At Glasgow, on 31st May last, Mary Anne, daughter of Mr. Patrick M'Lean, Merchant of this City.

PRICES CURRENT.

Doubloons, Spanish.......				dollars each	no price.
Do. Patriot				do. do.	
Plata macuquina				do. for one	
Dollars, Spanish				do. each.	
Do Patriot and Patacones..				do. do.	
Six per cent Stock... ...	60	a		*do. per ct.*	
Bank Shares	*none*				
Exchange on England .. .	$1\frac{7}{8}$	a	2	penceperdol	
Do. Rio Janeiro..		a		nominal.	
Do. Montevideo..	27	a	28	per patacon	
Do. United States		a		per U.S.dollar	
Hides, Ox, for Eng. & Ger.	65	a	68	dls.p.pesada	
Do. for France.....	55	a	58	do.	
Do. for N.America..	52	a	54	do.	
Do. for Spain.......	58	a	60	do.	
Do. salted		a		do.	
Do. Horse	20	a	22	do.each.	
Calf skins......	45	a	48		
Sheep skins, common.....	23	a	25	per dozen	
Do. fine.........	28	a	30	do.	
Deer skins...............	20	a	22	do.	
Goat skins...............	30	a	35	do.	
Nutria Skins........ ...	6	a	$6\frac{1}{2}$	do. perlb.	
Chinchilli Skins	90	a	100	do.perdozen	
Horse hair, short..........	52	a	55	per arroba.	
Do. mixed.........	60	a	65	do.	
Do. long.....	100	a	110	do.	
Wool, common, washed...	18	a	20	do.	
Do. picked.............	32	a	34	do.	
Do. shorn from skins....	36	a	42	do.	
Do. mestiza, dirty... ..	15	a	25	do.	
Tallow, pure....	27	a	32	do.	
Do. with grease.......	24	a	26	do.	
Jerked Beef.		a		per quintal	
Horns, mixed....	300	a	400	per mil.	
Do. Ox....	550	a	650	do.	
Salt, on board...........		a	*none*	per fan	
Discount	1	a	$1\frac{1}{4}$	pr.ct.pr.month	

The highest price of Doubloons during the week dollars. The lowest price dollars. *no transactions.*

The highest rate of Exchange upon England during the week 2 pence. The lowest ditto $1\frac{7}{8}$ pence.

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